

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4936

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, IT

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - SUMMER 1976 SCHEDULES

1. EMBASSY FILED INFORMATION ON PAA, TWA AND SEABOARD PRELIMINARY 1976 SUMMER SCHEDULES WITH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) ON DECEMBER 31. TWA LOCAL REP PROVIDED COMPLETE PRELIMINARY SCHEDULES WHICH WERE TRANSMITTED WITH THE NOTE VERBALE. PAA LOCAL REP PROVIDED COMPLETE INFO (BUT NOT PRINTED SCHEDULE) ON ROUTES, EQUIPMENT, FREQUENCIES AND FLIGHT NUMBERS, WHICH INFO EMBASSY INCORPORATED INTO TEXT OF NOTE. SEABOARD'S LOCAL REP HAD HEARD NOTHING FROM EITHER LONDON OR NEW YORK ABOUT THE 1976 SUMMER SCHEDULE, EVEN THOUGH HE HAD REMINDED BOTH OFFICES BY TELEX SEVERAL DAYS AGO OF NEED TO SUBMIT PRELIMINARY 1976 SUMMER SCHEDULE BY DECEMBER 31; EMBOFF HAD SEPARATELY INFORMED SEABOARD VICE PRESIDENT BLAKE IN LONDON SEVERAL WEEKS AGO OF DEADLINES FOR SUBMITTING SCHEDULES TO ITALIAN AUTHORITIES. IN VIEW FAILURE SEABOARD TO PROVIDE ANY INFO ON SCHEDULES, EMBASSY'S NOTE STATED THAT DURING 1976 SUMMER SEASON SEABOARD WOULD OPERATE SEVEN WEEKLY FREQUENCIES ON ITS NEW YORK-FRANKFURT-MILAN ROUTE USING 747 BETWEEN NEW YORK AND FRANKFURT AND DC-8 BETWEEN FRANKFURT AND MILAN AND TWO WEEKLY FREQUENCIES ON ITS NEW YORK-PISA ROUTE USING DC-8 EQUIPMENT, I.E. THE SAME SCHEDULE AS NOW IN EFFECT.

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2. EMBASSY ANTICIPATES GOI/ALITALIA WILL REQUEST CONSULTATIONS UNDER PARA (5) OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) ON BASIS THAT TWA IS OFFERING EXCESS PASSENGER CAPACITY, THAT SEABOARD IS OFFERING EXCESS CARGO CAPACITY BECAUSE OF CHANGE-OF-GUAGE IN FRANKFURT, AND THAT PAA'S SUBSTITUTION OF ONE WEEKLY 747 ALL-CARGO FLIGHT FOR TWO WEEKLY 707 ALL-CARGO FLIGHTS REPRESENTS AN UNNECESSARY INCREASE IN CAPACITY. SUCH CONSULTATIONS COULD BE HELD CONCURRENTLY WITH GENERAL CIVAIR CONSULTATIONS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN WASHINGTON ON FEBRUARY 16.

3. EMBASSY'S NOTE VERBALE TO MFA STATED INFORMATION ON 1976 SUMMER SCHEDULES WAS SUBMITTED FOR "INFORMATION AND USE OF APPROPRIATE ITALIAN CIVAIR AUTHORITIES" AND DID NOT RPT NOT REFER TO PARA (5) OF MOU, SINCE 1976 SUMMER SCHEDULES OF US CARRIERS DO NOT REPRESENT AN INCREASE IN CAPACITY AS COMPARED WITH SUMMER 1975 SCHEDULES. EMBASSY SELECTED THIS LANGUAGE TO AVOID IMPLICATION THAT IT ACCEPTS ITALIAN LANGUAGE VERSION OF MOU REQUIRING ALL SCHEDULES TO BE FILED 90/60 DAYS IN ADVANCE.

4. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE WHATEVER ASSISTANCE DEPARTMENT MAY BE ABLE TO OFFER IN EXPEDITING TRANSMITTAL OF SEABOARD'S 1976 SUMMER SCHEDULE TO EMBASSY. WE WOULD LIKE TO AVOID A HASSLE WITH GOI, SUCH AS OCCURRED WITH SEABOARD'S 1975/76 WINTER SCHEDULE, ARISING FROM LATE SUBMISSION. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, AIR SCHEDULES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ROME18940
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750451-0504
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975121/aaaaaagk.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <10 JUL 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR - SUMMER 1976 SCHEDULES
TAGS: EAIR, IT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006